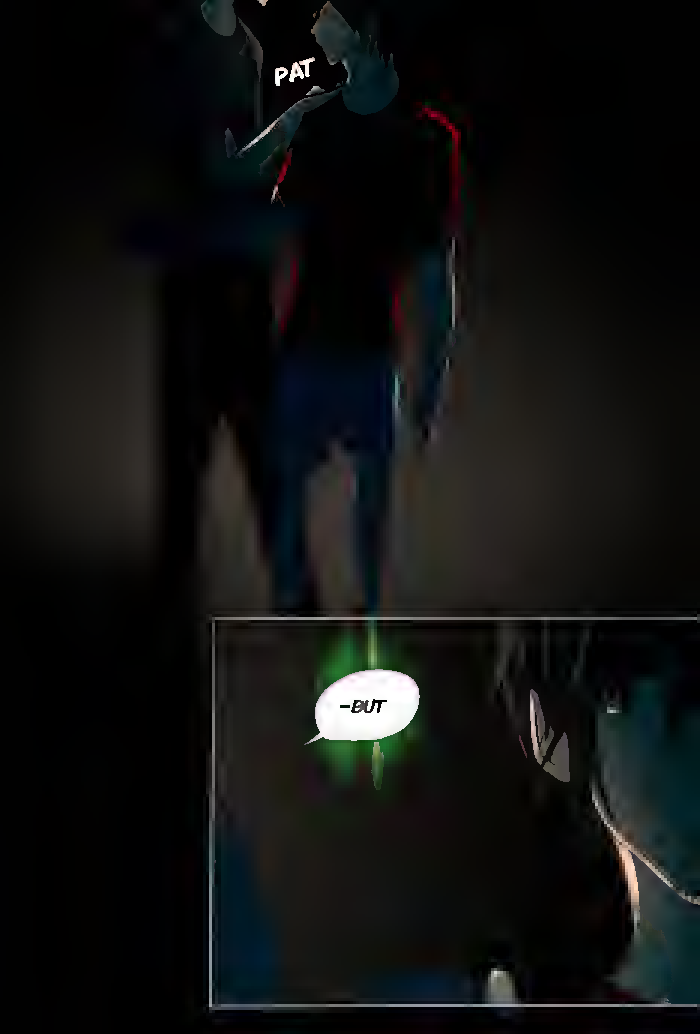
UNEASY

catharsis

By: Ahniku

BUT THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT.
WHAT I WANT TO CLARIFY IS THAT WHILE THIS TIMOREM SEEMS TOO WEAK TO HARM YOU, IT EVENTUALLY WILL.


PAT
-BUT

PAT
PAT
...
PEEK

GRAB
WE CAN'T EXACTLY IGNORE YOU NOW, ESPECIALLY WITH YOUR ABILITY TO TAMPER WITH OUR WORK
ALTHOUGH I DO BELIEVE YOU'RE HUMAN, YOU STILL CAUGHT OUR ATTENTION AND FOR THAT, WE'LL BE KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU

PROBABLY.
BUT WE CAN'T GO CUTTING IT DOWN JUST LIKE THAT. THERE ARE PROCEDURES WE NEED TO FOLLOW TO DO SO.
STEP
STEP
BESIDES, IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'S POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DO ANY HARM TO YOU--

WHEN A HOSTIA SEES THEIR OWN TIMOREM, HE OR SHE LITERALLY SEES ITS 'TRUE COLORS'.
A TIMOREM'S COLOR ISN'T TRULY WHITE IN APPEARANCE. AS A MANIFESTATION OF FEAR, ITS TRUE FORM IS TERRIFYING SINCE IT REFLECTS THE HOST'S INNER TERROR.

YES
JUDGING BY HOW CLEARLY YOU CAN SEE ITS FACE GOES TO SHOW THAT IT'S PROBABLY BEEN AROUND FOR QUITE SOME TIME NOW.
AND BY THE WAY IT STARES AT YOU MAKES ME SUSPICIOUS THAT IT MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOU.

IT'S JUST A BLANK CARD

LIVE AS YOU NORMALLY DO.
YOU CAN TRY TO FORGET ABOUT US AND THE MONSTER IN YOUR WINDOW.
MAYBE IT'D BE BETTER LIKE THAT. BUT WE WILL REMEMBER YOU.
IF, IN THE END, YOU'RE NOT REALLY WHAT YOU SAY YOU ARE...
WE WILL KILL YOU.

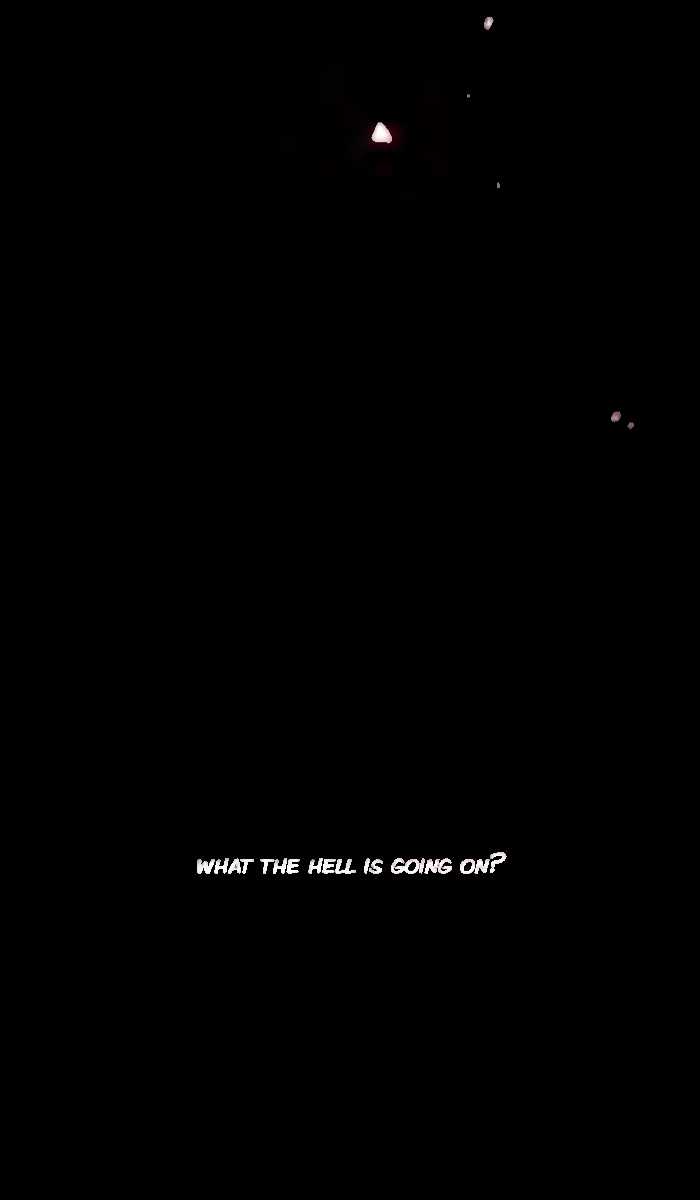
POP
POP
POP

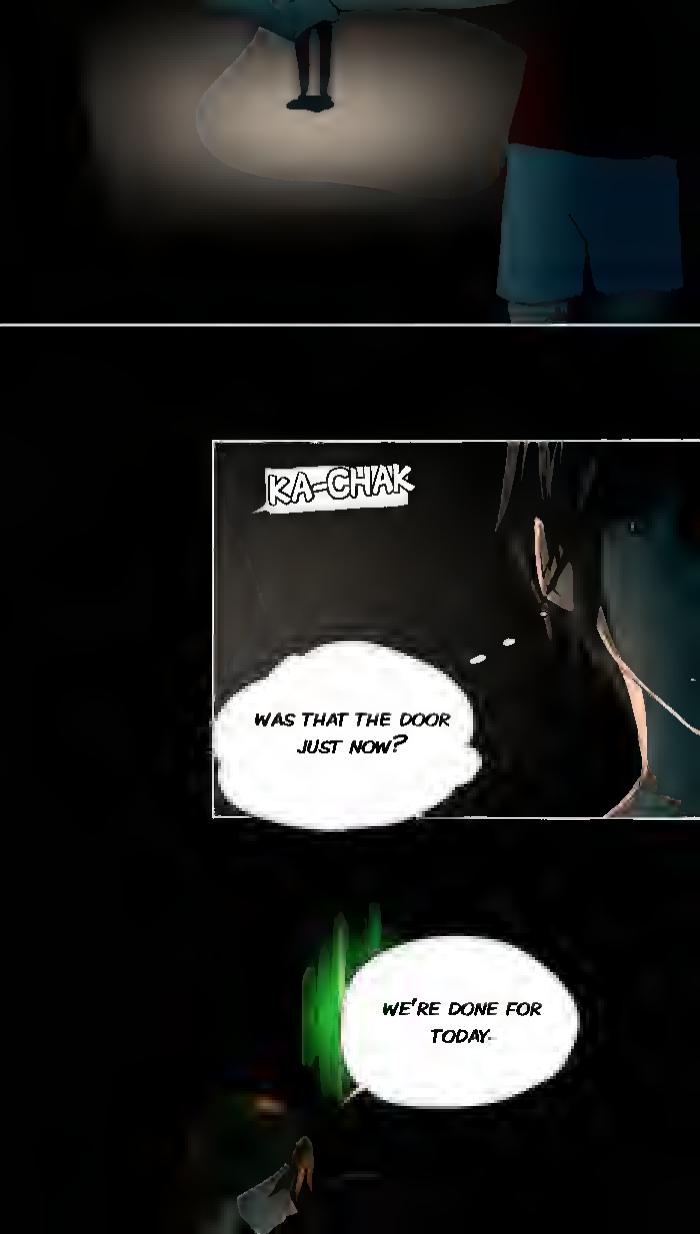
IT SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN YOU JUDGING BY ITS BEHAVIOR.
I CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT AS IT GROWS STRONGER, IT WILL JUST CONTINUE TO JUST 'WATCH' YOU LIKE THIS.

WHEN DID HE PUT THIS IN MY HAND?
THIS IS...

GETS UP

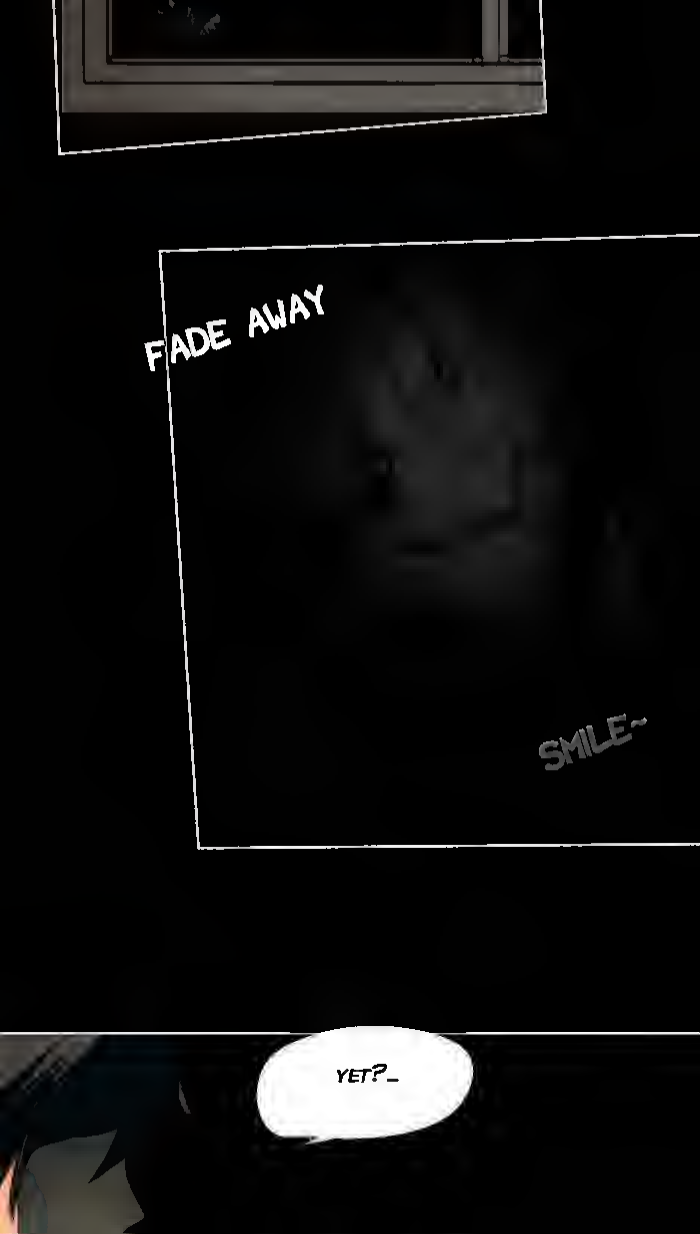
TAP


WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?


KA-CHAK
WAS THAT THE DOOR JUST NOW?
WE'RE DONE FOR TODAY.

THIS GUY!
WAIT.
WHAT?

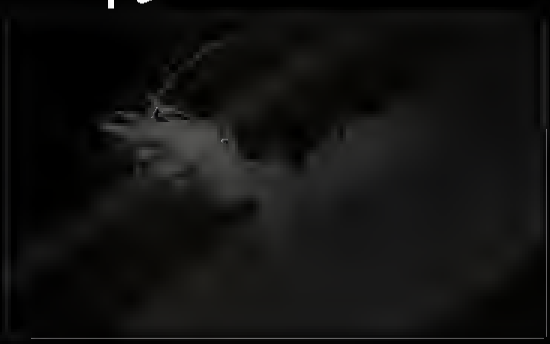
GULP
.....
FOR US TO ELIMINATE IT, WE NEED TO FIND IT'S HOST. FROM THE WAY ITS INTERESTED IN YOU, IT COULD BE YOURS.
THE TIMOREM...WHAT COLOR WAS IT?


FADE AWAY
SMILE~
YET?_

TH-THAT'S SOMEONE'S FEAR THEN?
SCOOT BACK

WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES.
APPEAR!
STEP
STEP

FLASH



FLIP
WHAT IS...

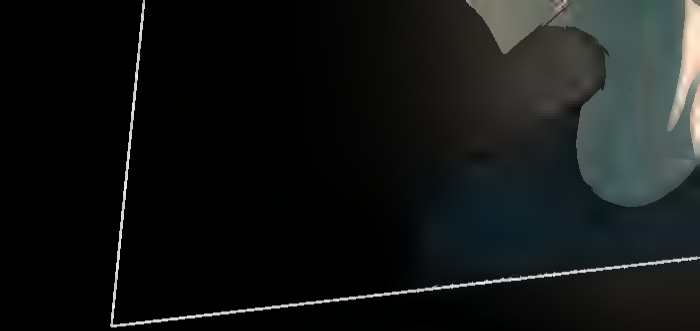
WHEN THEY HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO, THEY AIM TO KILL THEIR HOST...OR WORSE. CONSUME THEIR BODY.
TURN

THEY ALL DO.
MANY OF THEM HAVE NO OTHER PURPOSE THAN TO INFLICT PAIN AND SUFFERING. AND THEY WILL DO ANYTHING THEY CAN TO DO SO.

MONSTERS.
THE ONE YOU SEE NOW, THE ONE THAT CHASED US BEFORE, THOSE ARE THE TIMOREM.
THEY ARE THE MATERIALIZATION OF PEOPLE'S FEAR.
THEY'RE ENTITIES THAT GROW FROM FEEDING OFF OF TORMENT AND STRESS. THEY ARE THE MONSTERS THAT WE AS AGENTS ARE HIRED TO FIGHT AGAINST.
STEP
STEP

HMM. LOOKS LIKE IT ISN'T YOURS IN THAT CASE.
HUH?

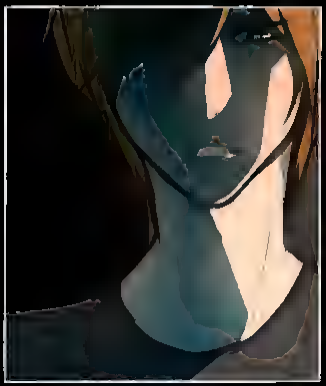
--NOT YET THAT IS.



Y-YOU'RE GOING TO KILL THAT ONE TOO RIGHT? JUST LIKE THE OTHER ONE FROM BEFORE?

CRACK
CRACK

WAIT! I THOUGHT YOU WERE LETTING ME GO.
STEP



ACTUALLY, NO. WE'RE NOT.

I JUST WANT TO REMIND YOU THAT WE ESTABLISHED THE FACT THAT I'M HUMAN. YOU CAN STOP EYEING ME DOWN NOW...
STOP FREAKING OUT SO MUCH. YOU HAVE EMOTION, A TRAIT THOSE CREATURES DON'T HAVE. PLUS, I HONESTLY BELIEVE YOU'RE JUST AS HUMAN AS I AM.

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COLOR?
BUT I DIDN'T HEAR IT SAY ANYTHI--
?

REACH

HEH
HEH
BUT LIKE PARIS SAID--

I MEAN---

W-WELL.. IF YOU MEAN ITS APPEARANCE, IT LOOKED PLAIN WHITE-